

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) 25X1A

TOPIC Military Information from Neuruppin

25X1A 25X1C

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1C

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 27 August 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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REMARKS

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SOURCE [REDACTED] 25X1X

25X1C 1. Between [REDACTED] 1951, gunfire was heard daily from the vicinity of Neuruppin (N 53/Z 49), starting in the early afternoon and lasting until late at night. The troops could not be observed, since all approaches were blocked. Newly erected 2-meter board fences enclosed the individual barracks installations. (1)

25X1C 2. On [REDACTED] the Fridericus Kaserne was still occupied by about 5,000 troops.

25X1C [REDACTED] Moldavian S.S.R. [REDACTED] border guard unit. He [REDACTED] several of his countrymen were serving with the same border guard "Otryad" (unit of several outposts), but that they were detached to different outposts. He further stated that duty was easy but that one could never buy the articles in the Moldavian S.S.R. which were available in Germany. Moreover, it was very difficult to meet Moldavian girls, since people there had not been reeducated and consider soldiers as wild beasts. (2)

25X1C 3. On [REDACTED] the former girls' school on Heustetterstrasse quartered about 350 soldiers. A unit of 2 officers and 60 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some wearing signal insignia, was seen marching out to Kraenzlinger-Siedlung (settlement). From there, they launched a practice attack toward the railroad line leading to Wittstock. (3)

25X1C 4. On [REDACTED] the Friedrich Kranz Kaserne quartered about 600 troops, and the adjoining telegraph construction office was vacant. Trucks [REDACTED] 25X1C

25X1C [REDACTED] were seen leaving the billeting area toward the Wittstock training site [REDACTED] each carrying 16 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and towing a 122-mm field howitzer. Two officers and 32 men drilled with six 82-mm mortars in the sandpit on Bechlinerweg on 28 July. After the drill, the [REDACTED] hauled the mortars back to the installation on two-wheel carts. Trucks [REDACTED] drove out of the installation toward the Wittstock training site, with each truck towing a 76-mm AA gun. Each truck was manned by four soldiers, and each gun by two soldiers who sat on either side of the barrel. (4)

25X1C 5. On [REDACTED] two rocket launchers, [REDACTED] 25X1C

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25X1C [redacted] were seen leaving Scholtenplatz. (5)

25X1C 6. At about 8 a.m. on [redacted] about 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and equipped with rifles and light machine guns assembled for a practice attack in the woods about 750 meters east of Kuhburgsberg. The only heavy weapons observed with the unit were three 120-mm mortars which were towed by trucks.

25X1C [redacted]  
25X1C [redacted] between 8:10 and 8:30 a.m., there was a conference attended by 130 officers who subsequently joined their units in small groups. At 9 a.m., the troops advanced from the assembly area northwestward in a practice attack, during which the individual squads mutually protected themselves with rifle and light machine gun fire. The positions of the simulated enemy were marked by red flags. (6)

25X1A [redacted] Comments.  
(1) Probably elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div which held practice firing in the vicinity of their post.

25X1A (2) The information on the occupation of the Fridericus Kaserne indicates no changes over the last report. See [redacted] 25X1C

25X1C

(3) To date, a small motor transport unit and soldiers attending a course have been carried there. See [redacted]

25X1A (4) According to a report by the same source, elements of the unidentified artillery regiment and the unidentified guards rocket launcher battalion of the 12th Gds Tank Div, which are believed to be stationed in the Friedrich Franz Kaserne, were entrained on [redacted] 1951. See [redacted] 25X1A

25X1C of these troops accounts for the decrease in number from 1,400 to 600 men estimated in the installation. See [redacted]. The trucks mentioned in the present report belong to the division's unidentified artillery regiment.

25X1A (5) Scholtenplatz is believed to serve as a storage area for motor vehicles, weapons, and equipment of the 12th Gds Tank Div. See [redacted] 25X1A

(6) The motor vehicles belong to components of the 12th Gds Tank Div and headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army which participated in the field exercises and probably were of regimental strength.

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